

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, and 30-35 are pending in the present application, with claims 30-32 being independent. Claims 3, 6, 9, 14-16 and 21-29 have been cancelled by this amendment, and claims 30-35 have been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 2-4, 6-10, 14-16, and 21-29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Flowers, Jr. et al. (U.S. 5,533,174) in view of Perry, "Teach Yourself WINDOWS 95," 1997. This rejection is respectfully traversed insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims.

Because claims 3, 6, 9, 14-16, and 21-29 have been cancelled by this amendment, the rejections against those claims are now rendered moot. Dependent claims 2, 4, 7, 8, and 10 now depend from independent claim 30. As such, claims 2, 4, 7, 8, and 10 should now be considered allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim, which is discussed further below.

Independent claim 30 is directed to a font sharing system in which data can be communicated between a client computer and a

server. Data representing a character string includes a plurality of characters and data representing sizes of characters included in the character string being transmitted to the server from the client computer. The server includes a layout generating means for generating data that represents a layout based upon the data representing the character string and the data representing the sizes of characters transmitted from the client computer. The server also includes a transmitting means for transmitting the layout data generated by the layout generating means. The client computer includes a display control means for controlling a display device so as to display frames on a display screen, each of the frames corresponding to the size of each character included in the character string based upon the layout data transmitted from the transmitting means of the server.

Furthermore, independent claims 31 and 32 also include data representing a character string, which includes a plurality of characters and data representing sizes of each character are included in the character string, are transmitted to the server from the client computer. Data representing a layout is generated at the server based upon the data representing the character string and the data representing the sizes of characters transmitted from the client computer. The generated layout data is then transmitted

to the client computer from the server. A plurality of frames, each corresponding to the size of each character included in the character string, are then displayed on a display screen at the client computer.

In other words the plurality of frames are displayed on the display screen, whereby each frame corresponds to the size of each character, even if the client computer does not have a bitmap font file for the characters. The user is able to ascertain what appearance the entered text will have when it is displayed (see, for example, the present specification at page 32, lines 6-21).

Flowers Jr. et al, however, does not teach or suggest the above features of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that Flowers Jr. et al., displays the character shape, *but not the frames*. In other words, the user is not able to ascertain what appearance the entered text will have, if a bitmap font file representing the entered text is not stored on the client computer.

The frame displayed on the display device according to one implementation of the present invention is a rectangular (which can include a square) line enclosing the character as shown in Fig. 20 or is, for example, a rectangular line having a size capable of enclosing the character as shown in Fig. 8 of the present invention, which shows a frame without the character.

Furthermore, Perry also fails to make up for the previously mentioned deficiencies of Flowers Jr. et al. Accordingly, in view of the above discussion, favorable allowance of added claims 30-35 and pending claims 2-4, 6-10, and 14-16 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, this application appears to be in condition for allowance and the Examiner is, therefore, requested to reexamine the application and pass the claims to issue

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Martin Geissler (Reg. 51,011) at telephone number (703) 205-8000, which is located in the Washington, DC area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

Appl. No. 09/281,797


required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

D. Richard Anderson, #40,439


DRA/REG:tm
0905-0216P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 3, 6, 9, 14-16, and 21-29 have been canceled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

2. (Thrice Amended) The system according to claim 30 [22], wherein [said client computer further includes means for transmitting, to said server, size designating data representing the size of a character specified by said character specifying data; and]

[said retrieval means of] said server retrieves, from [said] a first character image data storage means, character image data expressing a character, which has been specified by the character [specifying data] string and has a size that has been designated by [the] size designating data, as an image in such a manner that the specified character will have a font specified by [the] font specifying data.

3. Cancelled

4. (Twice Amended) The system according to claim 2, wherein said client computer further includes:

second character image data storage means for storing character image data expressing a character as an image;

determination means for determining whether character image data expressing a character as an image has been stored in said second character image data storage means, wherein said character has been specified by the character string [specifying data], has a font that has been specified by the font specifying data and a size that has been designated by the size designating data; and

enlarging/reducing means which, in response to a determination by said determination means to the effect that the character image data has not been stored in said second character image data storage means, is for processing the character image data in such a manner that, of character image data that has been stored in said second character image data storage means, a character image that has been specified by the character specifying data and has a font that has been specified by the font specifying data will be enlarged or reduced so as to take on a size that has been designated by the size designating data.

6. Cancelled

7. (Twice Amended) The system according to claim 30 [22], wherein

said client computer further includes style data transmitting means for transmitting, to the server, character style designating data for designating style of a character specified by the character specifying data; and

said server further includes:

designated character-style retrieval means for retrieving, from [said] a first character image data storage means, designated-style character image data expressing, as an image, a character of a style designated by the character style designating data transmitted from said style data transmitting means;

designated-style character image data generating means for generating the designated-style character image data in response to a situation where the designated-style character image data is not found by said designated character-style retrieval means; and

designated-style character image data transmitting means for transmitting, to said client computer, the designated-style character image data generated by said designated-style character image data generating means or the designated-style character image data found by said designated character-style retrieval means.

9. Cancelled

10. (Thrice Amended) The system according to claim 30 [22], wherein said server includes:

a printing device; and

means for generating new character image data, from the character image data that has been designated by [said] character image data generating means, so as to obtain a character image having a resolution suited to the resolution of said printing device.

14. Cancelled

15. Cancelled

16. Cancelled

Claims 30-32 have been added.